

### THE MORNING ASTORIAN

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TELEPHONE MAIN 66.

Official paper of Clatsop county and the City of Astoria.

#### WEATHER.

Oregon, Washington, Idaho  
—Fair and warmer.

#### FOR FUTURE USE.

While Astoria is preparing her charter for a comprehensive use of her harbor and promising future, it is well within reason that she should look to her harbor. That she possesses two of these, spacious, safe and convenient, is the main reason why this should be done. If she had simply the mere makings of a bay and must provide for extraordinary developments in the line, there might be some ground for hesitancy, on the score of expense.

In order to put the city upon a firmer marine basis; to give her definite and legal status as a port; to provide for tangible and effective treatment of her growing commercial interests, it is essential that her harbor, its channels, docks, water-rights and general business, be placed in clear-cut and progressive condition, such as other cities of her type enjoy.

To do this in practical, organic fashion, the new charter should contain ample and specific provisions for the establishment of a harbor commission, with all adequate authority for the enforcement of rightful regulations in such behalf.

The commission and its duties may be primarily, nominal, in numbers and scope; but the predicate must be laid for larger and more effective use, as time and circumstance may dictate. As things stand now, Astoria is simply a station on the channel-way between the Columbia bar and the Port of Portland, and this rating is tacitly unfair and semi-contemptible.

In view of the railroad development in and about Astoria, her marine relation to the certain expansion of her commerce must be safe-guarded by legislative authority of the fullest sort, in order that she may grapple successfully with the graver issues and elements that are sure to arise and in which she must lose disastrously unless fortified by laws conferring rights of recourse and defense.

All this may be incorporated in the charter in such a way that she can employ it when she needs it. And the day is not remote when she may be glad and gratified for the reserve power to do things for herself without having to wait for relief from the capitol, to her discomfiture and loss.

Provide, wisely and promptly, for a harbor-commission in all its elements, Gentlemen of the Charter Commission!

#### BEATEN AT HIS OWN GAME.

Mary Twain has brought a country seat and will soon retire to spend his declining days in seclusion. He yields the palm to the humorist who originated the idea of getting up a Republican campaign fund from \$1 subscriptions.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

#### ATTEMPTING THE IMPOSSIBLE.

Griggs—The idea of your letting your wife go around saying that she made a man of you. You don't hear my wife saying that.

Briggs—No, but I heard her telling my wife that she did her best.—Boston Transcript.

Mark Twain freely admits that he was opposed to the spelling reform nonsense until he became too old to have earthly interest in the subject.

#### TOUCHES BOTH.

"The simplified spellers," says the Providence Journal, "are reported to be in a state of mind with respect to the familiar word 'dough.'" Chairman Sherman, of the Republican congressional campaign committee shares their emotion.

#### REASON WHY.

"Say," growled Mr. Subbubs, "Della knows we always want dinner promptly at 6 o'clock, doesn't she?"

"Yes," replied Mrs. Subbubs, "Well, then, you ought to ask her why she doesn't have it ready at that hour."

"I did, and she said she didn't have to."—Philadelphia Press.

#### EDITORIAL SALAD.

It looks good to see the Henry Villard loading lumber at the Flavel pier.

It's hard to distinguish between the timber-cruisers and the new railway surveyors hereabout, these days.

There are those who declare the new hotel for Astoria is not so dead an issue as it appears to be.

Uncle Sam could be in better business than dickering for Chinese labor on public works at a rate approximating 10 cents per hour per man.

Col. Bryan is prompt to explain that he has been misunderstood insofar as it is assumed that he would rather be wrong than president.

The cork once out of the Columbia "bottle," there will be nothing to impede the improvements in the body of the thing.

What of local politics Astoria is to have this year, will transpire in the next seventy days. And some people are preparing for the season in a very practical way.

If that new cement test covering for the planking of Astoria's streets shall prove successful, an immense problem in current expense will have been solved.

The announcement that Secretary Taft is the biggest man in Cuba just now would be easily credible at any time when Secretary Taft might happen to be in Cuba.

Also, the way to recover from public treasurers the interest money on public funds deposited in banks is by legal proceedings instead of by campaign promises.

Elevate your municipal grades, especially, between Alderbrook and the western hills, and between Grand Avenue and the "A. & C" railway level, before it will cost a hundred-fold more to do it. It has got to come!

A friend at our elbow suggests that there is far too much reckless driving on Astoria's not overwide streets. He says he "gets up every morning with the conviction that he will be run over before night." Well, he may if he cultivates the sensational idea long enough!

Thirty or thirty-five feet of water on the Columbia river bar, at low water (and a busy dredger doing duty there to maintain it) will have an immense attractive force for the drawing of export and import cargoes, especially in the dispatch of the wheat of the great basin behind it.

A complete, legal survey of Astoria's harbor, for boundaries and soundings, the appointment of an intelligent harbor master with competent powers; the levy of small dues for entry and anchorage, and a clearer understanding and better appreciation of what Astoria's splendid bays mean to her, are the next best things in order.

By the way, would it not be as well to put the police of the city under some fixed and get-at-able authority, to whom the public shall look for its reckoning with that department? Responsibilities that can be passed along from one member of a police commission to another, and an utter absence of all public reports, are at the bottom of a growing sentiment in this city, for putting the police authority in the hands of the mayor and abolishing the commission.

COLON, Sept. 22.—Two canal work-trains met in head-on collision today. Three Americans and two West Indians were killed and four West Indians seriously injured. The mistake of a block dispatcher was responsible.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 22.—Simplified spelling in civil service examinations will be accepted the same as the old style, according to an order issued by the civil service commissioners.

For developing the Figure. Cleanliness is the first law in medicine. If you want a fine figure and good health, use Hollister's Rocky Mountain Tea. Tea or Tablets, 35 cents. For sale by Frank Hart.

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## A Poem for Today

### THE GOSPEL OF LABOR

By Henry van Dyke

THIS is the gospel of labor—  
Ring it, ye bells of the kirk!—  
The Lord of Love came down from above  
To live with the men who work.  
This is the rose he planted  
Here in the thorn-cursed soil:  
Heaven is blessed with perfect rest,  
But the blessing of earth is toil.

## Less Graft Now Than In Revolutionary Days

By FRANK W. HIGGINS, Governor of New York



THE idea of some persons that the world grows worse as it grows older is not unnatural, but we must not forget that in our struggle for freedom in the war of the Revolution the task of Washington and his fellow patriots was prolonged and made more painfully difficult by GRAFT AMONG OFFICERS OF THE ARMY to whom was confided the sacred trust of supplying with food and clothing his starving and freezing soldiers.

To the betrayal of that trust and the disloyalty to their great leader and their country were due the horrors of Valley Forge and the blood stains left by unshod feet upon the snow and ice in the forced march which preceded the capture of Trenton. TODAY SUCH CRUELTY IN GRAFT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE.

To me the future is bright with the promise of industrial and political improvement. Politics must be inseparably divorced from business. The courts must be free from back stair influence and intrigue. That the people insist on these things, that they are NOT DUMB AND HELPLESS in the presence of corporate avarice, official corruption or private greed, is to me the most satisfactory evidence of an improved moral sense which is reflecting itself in the election of public officials and in the conception of duty by such officials.

Do the people desire that the government shall be stronger than the insurance corporations, the railroads, the dealers in fraudulent foodstuffs and the trusts? The work of the recent legislature and of that session of congress recently closed constitutes an emphatic answer IN THE AFFIRMATIVE.

THE HANDWRITING ON THE WALL IS A WARNING TO CORRUPT POLITICIANS AND UNSCRUPULOUS MEN OF BUSINESS THAT THEY HAVE BEEN WEIGHED IN THE BALANCE AND HAVE BEEN FOUND WANTING AND THAT THE DAYS OF THEIR KINGDOM ARE NUMBERED

#### EAST IS INDIFFERENT.

Cuban Troubles Hardly Disturb Business of the Markets.

NEW YORK, Sept. 24.—The Times today states that events in Cuba have been viewed with comparative indifference here and abroad, and their progress from bad to worse has been reflected in but small measure in the stock markets, which, after all, are the best index of the minds of that part of the public at least with interests at stake.

Cuban bondholders have remained calm and the obligations of the new republic have lost only 4 1/2 points since the early days in August when the rumblings of the embryo insurrection were first heard. At the bottom of this confidence here and abroad is the knowledge that our government under provisions of the Platt amendment, is the responsible guardian of the Cuban peace. Financial interests have supreme confidence in this government's ability to put an instant quietus to the fighting on the island just as soon as intervention becomes a necessity.

Cuban development has gone on at marvellous pace ever since the American occupation and under the stimulus of American and English capital. It is estimated that the American capital now in Cuba amounts to \$200,000,000, and the sum of the English investments foots up to about the same total.

You little knew when first we met  
That some day you would be  
The lucky fellow I'd choose to let  
\*Pay for my Rocky Mountain Tea.  
For sale by Frank Hart.

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#### LOVE PROMPTED MURDER.

Devoted Love of a Nurse Girl Finds Terrible Expression.

NEW YORK, Sept. 24.—A strange case of murder, prompted by an affection that could not bear separation, has been revealed near Brewster, N. Y., through the confession of Jennie Burch, an Indian nurse girl, who is but 14 years of age, says a dispatch to the World. It appears that series of incendiary fires have occurred at Cowles Corners, 12 miles from Brewster, and suspicion fell on the Indian girl, Jennie Burch. She repelled the suspicions vigorously until last Friday the girl's infant charge, Wilbur Winship, 2 1/2 years old, was suddenly stricken with illness and soon died. Investigation developed that the child had been given a poisoned peach. The nurse girl was suspected but the crime seemed inexplicable, as the girl was known to be deeply attached to the child. Sunday, just before the child's burial, the crime was explained. The girl was brought into the room where the body of the little boy lay. When she saw the child she threw herself on the coffin and cried:

"I killed him; I poisoned him."  
Later when she grew calmer, she admitted that, acting under an uncontrollable impulse, she had set one of the incendiary fires. She knew she was suspected, and thinking she would have to die for the crime, she poisoned the boy, whom she loved so that he might go with her.

#### THE BREATH OF LIFE.

It's a significant fact that the strongest animal of its size, the gorilla, also has the largest lungs. Powerful lungs means powerful creatures. How to keep the breathing organs right should be man's chiefest study. Like thousands of others, Mrs. Ora A. Stephens of Port Williams, O., has learned how to do this. She writes: "Three bottles of Dr. King's New Discovery stopped my cough of two years and cured me of what my friends thought consumption. O, it's grand for throat and lung troubles." Guaranteed by Chas. Rodgers, Druggist. Price 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottle free.

## STAR THEATER

P. GEVURTZ, Manager

### The Mack Swain Theater Co.

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THIS IS A PERFECT REMOVER. HAS NO BAD ODER WILL NOT DISCOLOR "ANY" WOOD; CONTAINS NO CHEMICALS AND WILL NOT INJURE THE HANDS.

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O. I. PETERSON, Vice-President. J. W. GARNER, Assistant Cashier.

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Transacts a General Banking Business. Interest Paid on Time Deposits

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## First National Bank of Astoria, Ore.

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